

Doctor of Laws (Honoris Causa) June 27, 1963

J. R. Cartwright

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I present to you, Sir, John Robert Cartwright, whom we honour on this occasion as one of Canada's outstanding figures in the realm of law. An honours graduate of this Law School and a fourth generation lawyer in Ontario, he entered practice in 1920 after a distinguished record as a gallant soldier in World War 1. He rapidly became a noted counsel at trial and on appeal, with a special flair for the difficult point, and a unique sympathy for the underdog. He became a Benchler of the Law Society of Upper Canada in 1946, and after three and one-half years of useful service to his profession, was appointed in December 1949 to the Supreme Court of Canada, where his broad experience at the bar, his keen understanding of human nature, his innate modesty, his unfailing courtesy to all counsel, young and old, and his familiar zeal for essential justice, have gained him not only the respect of the public but the deepest regard and affection of his colleagues and of the bar. We therefore commend to you this distinguished jurist for our highest academic honour.